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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 39 of the Second Extraordinary Session
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to recognize Matthew Ryan Roark on becoming
an Eagle Scout.

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America, founded on February 8, 1910 and chartered by Congress in 1916, provides an exemplary educational program for boys and young adults to build character, train them in the responsibilities of participatory citizenship and develop excellent personal fitness; and

WHEREAS, in order to qualify for the top rank of Eagle Scout applicants must undergo a rigorous completion of 12 steps, including tenure, Scout spirit, merit badges, positions of responsibility, and while a Life Scout, plan, develop, and provide leadership to others in a service project and in the Scoutmaster Conference; and

WHEREAS, one of our best and brightest young persons, Matthew Ryan Roark, has worked very hard, shown exceptional competence and leadership and joined the prestigious Eagle Court of Honor; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Oneida, Tennessee, he is the son of proud parents Terry and Mary Ann Roark; and

WHEREAS, his carefully planned and executed Eagle Scout project was to map fields in the Big South Fork National Park. This wonderful project greatly benefited both visitors and park employees; and

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WHEREAS, Matthew is a popular and highly regarded sophomore at Oneida High School, where he has excelled both academically, as a two-year member of the Honor Roll and in student groups, including the History Club and the Math Club. He is also a valued member of the football team, having received the Outstanding Performance Award and the Big Orange Award, and the baseball team, having received their Outstanding Performance Award; and

WHEREAS, Matthew is also a distinguished graduate of Oneida Middle School, where he was on the Honor Roll 1995-1996, 1996-1997, and 1997-1998 and a 1996-1998 member of the Junior Beta Club. He received second place recognition in their 1997 Science Fair and was a member of the school football and basketball teams; and

WHEREAS, he has been a member of Boy Scout Troop 93, under the fine leadership of Scoutmaster Kyle Abrams, since 1994, and currently serves admirably as the troop Senior Patrol Leader; and

WHEREAS, Matthew loves the outdoors and has attended the BSA 1997 National Jamboree, where he won the subcamp award, the 5-k award and participated in the Home Improvement Program and Bible study. He also attended Major League Soccer Camps, receiving the Most Improved Player recognition in 1996, the Goalkeeper Improvement Award in 1997 and the Outstanding Player honor in 1998; and the Crosspointe Camp, in Campbellsville College, in Kentucky, receiving several sports awards; and

WHEREAS, his strong and abiding faith in God is evidenced by his membership in the Oneida First Baptist Church. He is a past member of their Older Children's Choir and a current member of the Sunday School and Youth Group programs; and

WHEREAS, despite his very busy schedule, Matthew has never lost sight of the importance of helping others, generously contributing his time and leadership to various church, school and scout charitable projects, including the April, 1999 Scott County Clean-up Project, the 1998 Foster Children's Christmas program, the 1998 "Christmas Card" and Sing-A-Long for

shut-ins and nursing home residents, and the 1997-1999 Lions Club Fundraisers at the Scott County Fair; and

WHEREAS, he has also worked part-time at Roark's Amoco Service Station and Roark's Pharmacy; and

WHEREAS, after graduation from high school, Matthew plans to attend college and study medicine or pharmacy because working in the health-care field would give him an opportunity to help other people. He wants to remain active in church and community activities; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause to honor and commend Matthew Ryan Roark on being named an Eagle Scout; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we commend Matthew Ryan Roark on his excellent Eagle Scout project and congratulate and honor him on becoming an Eagle Scout. We extend our best wishes for what we are confident will be a successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.